December 8, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor;

When I was in Rutland some weeks ago you very kindly spoke of your willingness to help us in the matter of hymn boards, which should be a very nice addition to our chapel equipment. I took up the matter with Mr. Collens, the architect, and he stated that we would not want to put in our chapel any stock design but should have something especially prepared to harmonize with the interior. He prepared sketches of two designs, and I enclose the blue print which he sent me. I asked him to get estimates on two boards of each design and I have just received the figures. The more elaborate boards with the angel's head would cost $115 for the two. The plainer ones would come to $60. There would be some additional cost, for express and setting up in the chapel, card board letters, and architect's commission of 15% for making the designs. This would add say about $25.

Mr. Collens strongly recommends the more elaborate and expensive boards and hopes you will want to install them. I have great respect for his judgment and taste and certainly he has given us a beautiful chapel, and any little addition we make to it ought to be of the best, both in design and workmanship. At the same time, I confess that I like the simpler design better, and that irrespective of cost. It seems to me more appropriate for our chapel. Mr. Collens says that the angel's head does not look well in the blue print because the whites are reversed. You may agree with him and certainly we shall be very pleased to have either of these beautiful boards in the chapel. They would help greatly in both our daily and Sunday service.

I may say that the estimate for the simpler board is from the Derryfield Company of New Hampshire, which made the finish. That on the other board is from a wood carver in Boston. I have no doubt that either would do a very good job under the direction of Mr.

Collens. He plans they should be placed in quite a prominent panel in the chancel.

I am very glad you are pleased with the little book concerning the chapel and I hope you will find it a pleasant reminder. The credit for the compilation and for the neat work belongs to the secretary in my office, Miss Ethel F Bartlett. Professor Wright has the material you sent up and he tells me he is sure we can make a very attractive and interesting book.

I have not forgotten your willingness to go over a few matters to be presented at the meeting in New York and when I can get things in a little better shape I want to present my suggestions for your consideration. I expect to be in New York next week and hope to have a good talk with Mr. Hepburn.

Faithfully yours,